

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real parties in interest are Tokai Kasei Co. Ltd., the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, and Masato Katayama.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences known to Appellants or Appellants' legal representatives that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 5-11, 13, 15-18, and 20-24 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-4, 12, and 14 have been cancelled.

As of the Office Action dated May 20, 2005, claims 5-6, 9, 11, 15-18, 20, and 23 stand twice rejected and form the basis for this appeal.

Further as of the Office Action dated May 20, 2005, claims 7-8, 10, 13, 21-22, and 24 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and allowable if rewritten in dependent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

All pending claims are presented as Appendix I of this Appeal Brief.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

An After Final Amendment is submitted with this Appeal Brief. In the Amendment, objected-to claims 7-8, 10, 13, 21-22, and 24 have been rewritten as independent claims, including the limitations any intervening dependent claims.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants' invention is generally directed to a root-inducing system and method that provides a streamlined means to effectuate root growth on plants or plant cuttings lacking any root system. In particular, the instant claims require a spray system or a method for application of a specific root-inducing compound to a leaf of a rootless cutting.